

# Energy Assessment for Homeowners

Save Energy. Save Money. Be More Comfortable in Your Home.

## STEP 1



### Hire an Energy Consultant to “Test In”

An Energy Assessment “Test In” consists of scheduling a certified and licensed Energy Rater to come to your home, test and gather data on all of the factors that affect your energy bill...the size of your home, direction it faces, location and efficiency of windows, the insulation in the floors, walls, and ceilings, the age and efficiency of the appliances, how leaky the house and heating ducts may be, as well as the heater, air conditioner, water heater, and any pool or spa equipment that may exist.

## STEP 2



### Review Energy Assessment Results & Prioritize

Once the “Test In” is completed and data is collected, an electronic model of the home is developed in a specialized, state-approved energy calculation computer program. The energy assessment is compiled and analyzed to project energy efficient saving possibilities and improvements. The Energy Consultant discusses the findings with the client and makes recommendations but is not affiliated with doing the work recommended. The client should then prioritize their customized list of various energy efficient improvements.

## STEP 3



### Obtain Contractor Proposals and Review Them

Obtain three proposals per construction trade (HVAC, Insulation, etc) and make sure you are comparing the same plans, specifications, materials, warranties, dates work will start and finish, if permits are included, and detailed scopes of work each contractor submits. Be sure to question and re-review any proposals that come in substantially lower or different than other bidders. Be sure you hire licensed and insured contractors and verify the person you are working with is employed by the licensed contractor.

## STEP 4



### Budget and Hire

Put together a budget line item spreadsheet and include the following costs: proposals for products, materials, installations, test out, and permits. You may even want to leave a little bit of money in a line item called miscellaneous, just in case. If you have any questions, concerns, or requests be sure to get it clarified in writing prior to work starting and signing the agreement (example: copies of permits and receipts). Contact and schedule your chosen contractors to begin work.

## STEP 5



### Call Energy Consultant to “Test Out”

Even when not required, it is nice to have the comfort of knowing the work was done correctly. Hiring the third party Energy Consultant to return to the home to “Test Out” ensures you made a successful investment. Again, be sure the Energy Consultant has no affiliation with the companies that completed the installations or products purchased.